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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of this amendment, which amends claims 1 and 24 and cancels claims 16-23, claims 1-15 and 24-27 will be pending. In the Office Action, claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-15 and 24-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Droessler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,866,454, hereinafter "Droessler"). Claims 1-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102b as being anticipated by Brusgard et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,214,438, hereinafter "Brusgard"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments above and remarks below.

Examiner Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the interview conducted on 5/5/03. During the interview, the Examiner and Applicants agreed on an amendment that overcame the cited references.

Section 112 Rejections

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 17 has been canceled and thus the rejection is moot.

Claims 1-15

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Droessler and rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(b) as being anticipated by Brusgard. As discussed during the interview, the cited references do not disclose or suggest every element of claim 1, as amended. For example, the cited references do not disclose or suggest:

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an electromagnetic receiver having a surface for receiving the reflected electromagnetic waves and reflecting the optical signals, wherein the electromagnetic waves are received using the surface that reflects the optical signals;

a collecting device coupled to the electromagnetic receiver configured to collect the received electromagnetic waves; and

an optical receiver for receiving the optical signals reflected from the electromagnetic receiver.

Applicants submit that cited references do not disclose or suggest an electromagnetic receiver having a surface for receiving the reflected electromagnetic waves and reflecting the optical signals. Moreover, the cited references do not disclose or suggest a collecting device coupled to the electromagnetic receiver that is configured to collect the received electromagnetic rays.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1. Claims 2-15 depend from claim 1 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2-15.

Claims 24-27

Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Droessler and under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Brusgard. For the reasons discussed above, applicant submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest every element of claim 24, as amended. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 24. Claims 25-27 depend from claim 24 and thus derive patentability at least therefrom. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 25-27.

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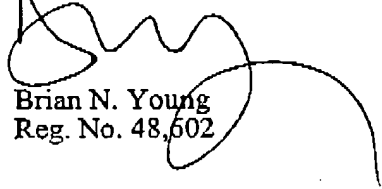
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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